

SECRET

1. A method of producing a three-dimensional knit, i.e. a knit whose area is shaped spatially, said three-dimensional shaping being achieved by widening and/or narrowing loops in specific portions characterized in that said widening/narrowing of the loops is done at several locations arranged distributed.
2. The method as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that said widening/narrowing locations in a portion of equal deformation are spaced away from each other roughly equal.
3. The method as set forth in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that said degree of deformation is set via the area-specific density of the locations at which a widening/narrowing occurs.
4. The method as set forth in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that said locations are arranged statistically distributed in said portion.
5. The method as set forth in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that knitting is done with twin needles, the number of activated needles being selected differing for each twin needle in said widening/narrowing portion and in the remaining knit.

6. A method of producing a three-dimensional knit, i.e. a knit whose area is shaped spatially characterized in that said three-dimensionally shaping is achieved by needles being rendered inactive in at least one portion to be shaped over at least one course at least in part and later reactivated, whilst in other portions knitting is done throughout, said inactivating/activating said needles in said portion to be shaped being done at many locations arranged distributed.

7. The method as set forth in claim 6, characterized in that total or partial needle inactivation is done in said portion equispaced by at least one to thirty courses.

8. The method as set forth in claims 6 or 7, characterized in that the wales at which inactivation is commenced are alternately changed within said portion for inactivations in sequence.

9. The method as set forth in claim 8, characterized in that said change is made statistically distributed.

10. A method of producing a three-dimensional knit, i.e. a knit whose area is shaped spatially characterized by a combination of the methods as set forth in claims 1 and 6.

11. The method as set forth in any of the preceding claims, employing a flat knitting machine with twin needles, characterized in that

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unlike the remaining knit, knitting is done in said widening/narrowing portion with both needles of said twin needle successively.

12. The method as set forth in any of the preceding claims, employing a flat knitting machine with twin needles, characterized in that in the fashioning or widening/narrowing portion knitting is done with a higher strength than in the remaining portion.

13. The method as set forth in claim 6 characterized in that on a flat knitting machine having single needle drive several fashioning portions distributed over the width of the needle bed are fabricated synchronously.

14. A knit produced as set forth in any of the preceding claims.

15. The knit as set forth in claim 14, comprising alternating plies/areas characterized in that the density of said locations for widening/narrowing loops or inactivating needles in a ply/area is higher than in the other ply/area.

16. Use of said knit as set forth in claim 14 or 15 for producing the fabric ply for a knitted helmet dome.

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